

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 143936
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 /034 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JPLYLE:LB
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:JWWINAM
NEA/ARN:NHOWELL
EUR/NE:JPSHUMATE
SY:JBLISS

-----032792 212126Z /72

P 212002Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 143936

LONDON FOR KINSOLVING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TC

SUBJECT: APPARENT LEAK OF CLASSIFIED ABU DHABI AIRGRAM
TO BRITISH FREE-LANCE JOURNALIST

REFERENCE: ABU DHABI A-14 DATED JANUARY 30, 1973

1. DEPARTMENT (ARP) RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM FREE-LANCE
BRITISH JOURNALIST NAMED TOM HOBBS, LONDON PHONE NO.
387-0176. HOBBS SAID HE HAD RECEIVED A COPY OF WHAT
APPEARED TO BE AN EMBASSY ABU DHABI CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN
AIRGRAM ENTITLED: "CONTRACT AWARDED FOR DUBAI DRY DOCK:
IT'S HOW YOU PLAY THE GAME THAT COUNTS." HE SAID HE HAD
RECEIVED THE AIRGRAM IN THE MAIL FROM AN UNKNOWN PARTY IN
PARIS, PLANNED TO DO A STORY BASED ON THE AIRGRAM'S CON-
TENTS, AND WAS CALLING TO TRY AND CONFIRM THE SIMPLE
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PAGE 02 STATE 143936

EXISTENCE OF THIS DOCUMENT BEFORE WRITING HIS STORY.

2. DEPARTMENT REPLIED THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO CONFIRM
THE EXISTENCE, OR IN ANY WAY COMMENT UPON DOCUMENT
CONTAINING CLASSIFIED INFORMATION WITH INDIVIDUALS NOT
CLEARED TO RECEIVE SUCH INFORMATION. HOBBS ACCEPTED THIS
REPLY RELUCTANTLY AND TERMINATED HIS PHONE CALL.

3. BEGIN FYI: SEARCH OF CENTRAL FILES REVEALED EXISTENCE

OF DOCUMENT HOBBS CLAIMED TO POSSESS. WE ARE POUCHING COPIES TO EMBASSY ABU DHABI AND EMBASSY LONDON FOR KINSOLVING. IN SUMMARY, AIRGRAM FOCUSED ON REPORTS THEN CURRENT IN ABU DHABI THAT MAHDI TAJIR UAE AMBASSADOR TO LONDON WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN SECURING DUBAI DRY DOCK CONTRACT FOR ENGLISH CONSTRUCTION FIRM OF THOMAS B. COSTAIN LTD. AND RECEIVED ILLICIT PAYMENTS FROM COSTAIN AS A CONSIDERATION. END FYI.
VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 143936
ORIGIN NEA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-02 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY:NEA/ARP:JPLYLE
APPROVED BY:NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM
EUR/CE:GCHESTER

-----061441 231742Z /47

P 231715Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 143936

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 143936 ACTION ABU DHABI LONDON JUNE 21.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 143936

LONDON FOR KINSOLVING

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, TC
SUBJ: APPARENT LEAK OF CLASSIFIED ABU DHABI AIRGRAM TO BRITISH
FREE-LANCE JOURNALIST

RE: ABU DHABI A-14 DTD JAN 30, 1973

1. DEPT (ARP) RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM FREE-LANCE BRITISH
JOURNALIST NAMED TOM HOBBS, LONDON PHONE NO. 387-0176. HOBBS

SAID HE HAD RECEIVED A COPY OF WHAT APPEARED TO BE AN EMB ABU DHABI CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN AIRGRAM ENTITLED: "CONTRACT AWARDED FOR DUBAI DRY DOCK; IT'S HOW YOU PLAY THE GAME THAT COUNTS." HE SAID HE HAD RECEIVED THE AIRGRAM IN THE MAIL FROM AN UNKNOWN PARTY IN PARIS, PLANNED TO DO A STORY BASED ON THE AIRGRAM'S CONTENTS, AND WAS CALLING TO TRY AND CONFIRM THE SIMPLE EXISTENCE OF THIS DOCUMENT BEFORE WRITING HIS STORY.
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PAGE 02 STATE 143936

2. DEPT REPLIED THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO CONFIRM THE EXISTENCE, OR IN ANY WAY COMMENT UPON DOCUMENT CONTAINING CLASSIFIED INFORMATION WITH INDIVIDUALS NOT CLEARED TO RECEIVE SUCH INFORMATION. HOBBS ACCEPTED THIS REPLY RELUCTANTLY AND TERMINATED HIS PHONE CALL.

3. BEGIN FYI: SEARCH OF CENTRAL FILES REVEALED EXISTENCE OF DOCUMENT HOBBS CLAIMED TO POSSESS. WE ARE POUCHING COPIES TO EMB ABU DHABI AND EMB LONDON FOR KINSOLVING. IN SUMMARY, AIRGRAM FOCUSED ON REPORTS THEN CURRENT IN ABU DHABI THAT MAHDI TAJIR UAE AMB TO LONDON WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN SECURING DUBAI DRY DOCK CONTRACT FOR ENGLISH CONSTRUCTION FIRM OF THOMAS B. COSTAIN LTD. AND RECEIVED ILLICIT PAYMENTS FROM COSTAIN AS A CONSIDERATION. END FYI. VANCE UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JOURNALISTS, SECURITY LEAKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE143936
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPLYLE:LB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770221-1067
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770634/aaaabdzj.tel
Line Count: 144
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ec3e6479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 ABU DHABI A-14
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2079991
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APPARENT LEAK OF CLASSIFIED ABU DHABI AIRGRAM TO BRITISH FREE-LANCE JOURNALIST
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, TC, (HOBBS, TOM)
To: ABU DHABI LONDON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ec3e6479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009